

Still Burning – A Research Project

Spring 2014

Objectives for students:

- Gain in-depth knowledge about a topic of major historical significance from the late 20th century
- Understand how this event relates to other domestic and international events
- Manage the research, writing, and organizational challenges of a research project

Product:

- A 3-6 page paper based on your research of a topic
- Properly cited sources (at least four)

Process:

1. You will be assigned a topic in a category of interest that you will choose (you will choose the category, Marty will provide the topic)
2. We will spend some class time early in the process for research
3. There will be several deadlines along the way that will be posted as homework grades
4. This will require work out of school; you may have to include a library visit
5. In class, we will be covering the post World War II era, which will include note-taking, quizzes, and occasional homework assignments
6. You will submit a final report by the due date – **Monday, May 19**

Categories:

- Africa
- Asia
- Civil Rights
- Europe
- Latin America
- Middle East
- Politics
- Protest
- Society
- War

Research requirements:

- Minimum of four sources
- At least one book source (the entire book does not have to be about the topic, but the book should cover the topic in some detail)
- You can use an encyclopedia or textbook as a source, but it will not count as your book source
- Follow the format for citing sources that is provided

Constructing your paper:

Since everybody is doing a different topic, the guidelines have to be general. These are the most important areas:

- Focus especially on defining the conflict that is central to this event
- Provide the factual details about the event (who, what, where, when, why)
- Discuss the impact this event has had on America and/or the world
- Include and support your own reflections about the significance of the event

How you organize your information is up to you and the research that you do. Some possibilities:

- Your opening paragraph can include a thesis statement about the nature of the conflict and your belief about its historical importance
- The body of your paper can:
 - Be told in chronological order;
 - Focus on key people, places or situations involved in the event;
 - Relate the facts of the event first, then discuss your reflections; or
 - Weave your reflections throughout the narrative of the event
- The conclusion should reinforce your thesis and reflections

Paper Requirements:

- Three-six pages, typed and double-spaced in normal font, 12 point
- A cover page with a title and your name
- A separate page at the end listing sources
- The final copy should be neat, stapled, and proofread

Optional:

- You can include 1-2 pages of pictures, however, these would be in addition to the 3-6 pages of text
- You can use headings for different parts of the paper

Deadlines: *(these will count as homework grades)*

- Informal list of at least two sources (Friday, April 25)
- Notes check (Monday, May 5)
- Draft-in-process check (Monday, May 12)
- Final draft (Monday, May 19)

Grading – Final Draft:

- Volume – contains sufficient and accurate information on all parts of paper, as outlined in **Constructing your paper** section above (50% of grade)
- Structure – clear paragraphs and logical presentation of data (20% of grade)
- Sentences – proper sentence structure & mechanics (20% of grade)
- Sources – sufficient number of properly cited sources (10% of grade)

Words to the wise:

- Ask questions
- Attend tutorial
- Be proactive

Student	Category	Topic
Maura	Europe, War	Hungarian Revolution - 1956
Sydni	Latin America	Nicaraguan Revolution - 1979
Jacob	Europe, Asia, War	Berlin Airlift - 1948-1949
Kyra	Society, Civil Rights	Freedom Riders - 1961
Leah	Europe, Society, Africa	Solidarity Movement - Poland
Grace	War, Middle East	Six Day War - 1967
Paul	War	Battle of Mogadishu - Somalia - 1993
Gabe	Society	The Beatniks
Isaac	War	Soviet-Afghanistan War
Corin	Europe, War	The Berlin Wall
Nigel	Politics	Watergate
Lila	Society, Protest	Democratic Convention Protests - 1968
Sophie	Europe, Africa	Apartheid
Georgia	Latin America, Middle East, Europe	Iran-Contra Affair
Nat	Middle East, Europe	Summer Olympics/PLO - 1972
Dylan	Society, Civil Rights, Protest	Selma to Montgomery Marches - 1965
Henry	War, Middle East, Asia	Lebanon War - 1982
Michele	War, Middle East	First Gulf War - 1991
Miles	Asia	Tiananmen Square Protests - 1989
Lily	Society	Woodstock - 1969
Lyle	Middle East, Asia, War, Europe	Iranian Revolution - 1979

Name:

Topic:

Research Paper Checklist

Project Component:	Points:	Out of:
Volume: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes thesis statement• Defines the conflict• Provides factual details• Discusses impact on America/world• Reflects about significance		50
Structure – clear paragraphs and logical presentation of data		20
Sentences – proper sentence structure & mechanics		20
Sources – sufficient and properly cited		10
TOTAL:		100

Positives:

Changes to Consider: